

2010-2011**Changes to the Alaska Alternate Assessment Training Site <ak.k12test.com>****POLICY OR PROCEDURAL CHANGES****1. Expanded the Testing Window**

The testing window now opens on January 31 and closes at 6:00 pm on April 8, 2011. Secure test documents will be available for download on January 31, 2011.

2. Removed “Absent” as a reason to not test a student.

A student is unlikely to be absent for the entire, expanded alternate assessment testing window (ten weeks). **Absent** as a reason not tested has been eliminated. If a student is hospitalized or absent for the entire ten weeks, choose **Other** and provide a brief explanation in the text box that will appear.

3. Changed the “Mark this area complete” checkbox

The checkbox at the bottom of each training page has been changed to “I have read this page” and is duplicated at the top of each training page. This statement corresponds to the Test Security Agreement

4. Added “Refresher Proficiency Test” function

Returning Qualified Assessors and Qualified Mentor-Trainers who completed the web-training last year need to refresher certain skills and understandings (listed in the Materials tab under “Refresher Test.” After reviewing those training topics, these QAs and QTs must complete a Refresher Proficiency Test which will be automatically available to them in the Proficiency tab. Refresher tests have only 25 questions total, five each in Administration, Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science.

Returning QAs and QTs who are eligible for the Refresher Test must earn 80% correct, or attempt the test a second time. If a third trial is required, Returning QAs must contact their District Mentor to reset their test attempts; Returning QTs must contact Aran Felix at EED to reset their tests.

5. DIASA-Data Interaction for Alaska Student Assessments

Data Interaction for Alaska Student Assessments (DIASA) is a dynamic, Web-based system that provides online access to student performance for Alaska’s required student assessments. Alternate Assessment student data will be included this year. See your District Test Coordinator for a password.

<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/assessment/diasa.html>

6. Braille and Large Print Orders

District Test Coordinators will send Braille and Large Print test orders to EED, October 11-15, 2011. Please alert your DTC if you have a student requiring one of these assessments. These tests will be mailed to the DTC in mid-January.

TRAINING and CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**1. Reliability and Validity Studies**

The Writing Ideas and Organization Scoring Guide was rewritten for improved clarity. In spring 2011, EED and Dillard Research Associates (DRA) will be conducting reliability studies on the alternate assessment writing scoring protocols. If your student is chosen, you will **not** shred the scoring protocols at the close of the test window and those scoring protocols will be sent to EED/DRA. Further instructions will follow.

2. Alternate Assessment Training and Committees***2010-2011***

New Mentor Training, September 27-28, 2010, Juneau, AK

Annual Mentor Training, October 25-26, 2010, Anchorage, AK

Alternate Assessment Advisory Committee, October 27, 2010, Anchorage, AK

Bias and Content Review, TBD

2011-2012 – Dates are tentative

New Mentor Training, September 26-27, 2011, Juneau, AK

Annual Mentor Training, October 27-28, 2011, Anchorage, AK

Alternate Assessment Advisory Committee, October 26, 2011

3. Program Evaluation

A program evaluator has been contracted to review and make recommendations for continuous improvement to the Alternate Assessment program. She will be reviewing the areas of test development and administration, scoring and reporting, training and support, use of assessment results, program documentation, and may conduct interviews with district personnel.

4. Alternate Assessment Advisory Committee

EED recruited for qualified assessors and mentors to participate in an advisory committee on alternate assessment issues. This group will provide advice and make recommendations to EED. Alternate Assessment mentors have functioned, and will continue to function, as an informal advisory group.

5. Work Ready/College Ready Regulation

The two Work Ready/College Ready regulations are under legal review to determine how these regulations may apply to students with significant cognitive disabilities. The two regulations are: 4 AAC 06.715. Work ready/college ready transitional skills curriculum and benchmark Assessments, and 4 AAC 06.717. Work ready/college ready transitional skills assessment.

SPECIFIC WEBSITE CHANGES

TRAINING tab

1. Content reorganized into Sections

A CALENDAR section was inserted at the top of the training topics, with a link to important dates and events for the Alaska Alternate Assessment.

Five content area topic sections were defined: ADMINISTRATION, READING, WRITING, MATH, SCIENCE

Each content area topic has several pages of training text, or video and supporting documents.

2. Encouragement to complete a training section in one content area, then move to that content area proficiency test

After each training topic area (ADMINISTRATION, READING, WRITING, MATH, SCIENCE), a note was inserted at the end of the last page of that section:

NOTE: After you have completed the Administration modules prior to this page, take the Administration Proficiency Test.

You will have two opportunities to earn a score of 80% or greater. After the second attempt, you will need to have your tests reset. Please contact your District Mentor to reset your proficiency tests. If you are a Qualified Mentor-Trainer, please contact Aran Felix at EED to have your proficiency tests reset.

3. Enhanced training in administering the test and moving to ELOS

The rules for administering the test were significantly enhanced and include the rules for moving to ELOS. (ADMINISTRATION > Test Administration Information and Rules).

The rules for administering ELOS were clarified (ADMINISTRATION > Expanded Levels of Support (ELOS)).

4. Reasons Not Tested

The Reasons Not Tested training page has been updated to remove “Absent” as an acceptable reason to not test a student with the Alaska Alternate Assessment (ADMINISTRATION > Reasons Not Tested).

5. Enhanced guidance in scoring writing samples (Administration > Writing Scoring)

The definitions and examples in Writing Scoring were enhanced during New Mentor Training to address common areas of confusion. In addition, the scoring guidance pages for Correct Word Sequence scoring and Ideas and Organization scoring have been improved, based on feedback from the Annual Mentor Training in 2009.

6. Subject Area training sections

All subject area training sections (Reading Training, Writing Training, Math Training, and Science Training) have been updated with corrected support materials as needed. The

most significant changes were to the Writing Training pages, where the updated CWS and Ideas and Organization rubrics have been applied.

PROFICIENCY tab

1. Proficiency vs Refresher tests

For most users, the system will direct the user to take proficiency tests. Proficiency tests are similar in scope and layout to last year: 20 questions for each of five content areas (Administration, Reading, Writing, Math and Science). Users must score 80% correct to pass the proficiency. After a second attempt does not earn 80%, the Assessor-in-training must contact his or her District Mentor to have the proficiency test reset for another two attempts. Mentors should review the missed questions and provide additional coaching in areas of confusion to their protégés.

Returning Qualified Assessors (QAs) and Qualified Mentor-Trainers (QTs) who completed all training last year will be directed to take Refresher tests. These tests are reduced in scope, and focus on highlights and key areas: 5 questions for each of the five content areas (Administration, Reading, Writing, Math and Science). QAs and QTs who are eligible for the Refresher tests must earn 80%, and are given two attempts to pass. QAs who need their Refresher Tests reset for an additional two attempts must contact his or her District Mentor. QTs who need their Refresher Tests reset for an additional two attempts must contact Aran Felix at EED.

MATERIALS tab

1. Reorganization of materials into sections

Practice Test Materials, Training Materials, Refresher Tests and Secure Test Materials are the Section headings as of 10/8/2010. Other sections may be added during the window. Documents will continue to be uploaded within sections as they become available, especially in the Training Materials section.

2. Limited access to certain sections and materials

- Access to Training Materials is restricted to Qualified Mentor-Trainers.
- Access to Refresher Test materials is restricted to Qualified Assessors and Qualified Mentor-Trainers.
- Access to Secure Test Materials is restricted to Qualified Assessors and above (those who have completed the steps to become a QA or QT in 2010-2011, or who were previously a QA or QT and have completed either the proficiency tests or refresher tests). Secure Test Materials will be available on January 31, 2011).

3. Reorganization of Secure Test Materials

Secure Test materials located under the Materials Tab have been reorganized for ease of use. Simply click on the blue, highlighted test document to have the document download to your desktop in PDF file format (be sure to remove all downloaded test documents from your hard drive and “Empty Trash” by April 12, 2011).

	Grade 3-4	Grade 5-6	Grade 7-8	Grade 9-10	Expanded Levels of Support Items (ELOS)
Reading	AKAA Grades 3 & 4 Reading-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 5 & 6 Reading-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 7 & 8 Reading-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 9 & 10 Reading-Scoring Protocol	AKAA ELOS Reading Scoring Protocol
	AKAA Grades 3 & 4 Reading-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 5 & 6 Reading-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 7 & 8 Reading-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 9 & 10 Reading-Student Materials	AKAA ELOS Reading Student Materials
Writing	AKAA Grades 3 & 4 Writing-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 5 & 6 Writing-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 7 & 8 Writing-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 9 & 10 Writing-Scoring Protocol	AKAA ELOS Writing Scoring Protocol
	AKAA Grades 3 & 4 Writing-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 5 & 6 Writing-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 7 & 8 Writing-Student Materials	AKAA Grades 9 & 10 Writing-Student Materials	AKAA ELOS Writing Student Materials
Mathematics	AKAA Grades 3 & 4 Math-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 5 & 6 Math-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 7 & 8 Math-Scoring Protocol	AKAA Grades 9 & 10 Math-Scoring Protocol	AKAA ELOS Math Scoring Protocol

DATA ENTRY tab

1. Entering Student Caseload Information

All student names and demographic information needs to be entered into the online system by February 14, 2011 at the latest. You may begin entering student data on January 31, 2011.

2. Collecting Additional Information on Timing/Scheduling Accommodations Used:

Refer to Table 2 in the Participation Guidelines for further definitions of accommodations.

“Breaks” means that the student was provided frequent breaks during testing.
 “Multiple sessions” means that the test was administered over several days.
 Select the option below that applies to the administration of this assessment to this student.

Timing/Scheduling Accommodations:

- A. This subject administered with breaks/multiple sessions
- B. This subject administered with NO breaks/one session
- C. Multiple subject administration with breaks/multiple sessions
- D. Multiple subject administration with NO breaks/one session

--Choose all tests administered in one session: [checkboxes, allow one or all to be chosen]

--Reading—Writing—Math--Science

REPORTS tab

1. AA Individual Student Reports:

Student reports will be uploaded to <https://akreports.k12test.com/> on May 16, 2011.

EED will not mail out student reports unless a district specifically requests this service.

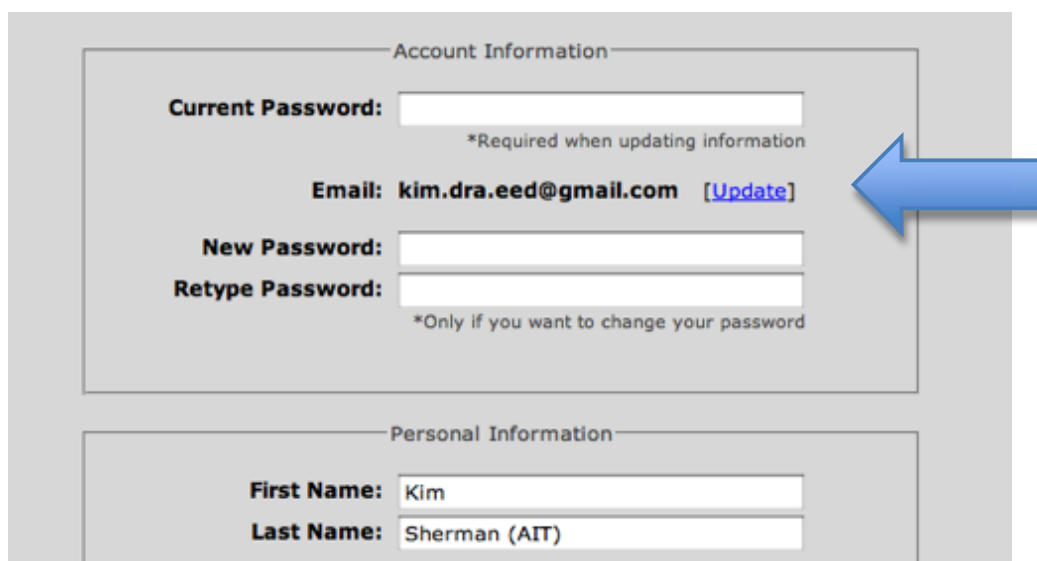
District Test Coordinators received their logon and password at DTC training in September 2010.

2. AA Unofficial Student Reports:

These reports are available immediately after entering AND submitting all student scores into online system. In the past, these reports were not available after the test window closes. New this year: The unofficial reports will be available until June 17, 2011.

HELP / SETTINGS tab (previously ACCOUNT)**1. Help Desk Information included at the opening page of this tab****2. Ability to easily update email address for account**

Users can change their email address associated with their ak.k12test.com user information:



Account Information

Current Password:

*Required when updating information

Email: **kim.dra.eed@gmail.com** [\[Update\]](#)

New Password:

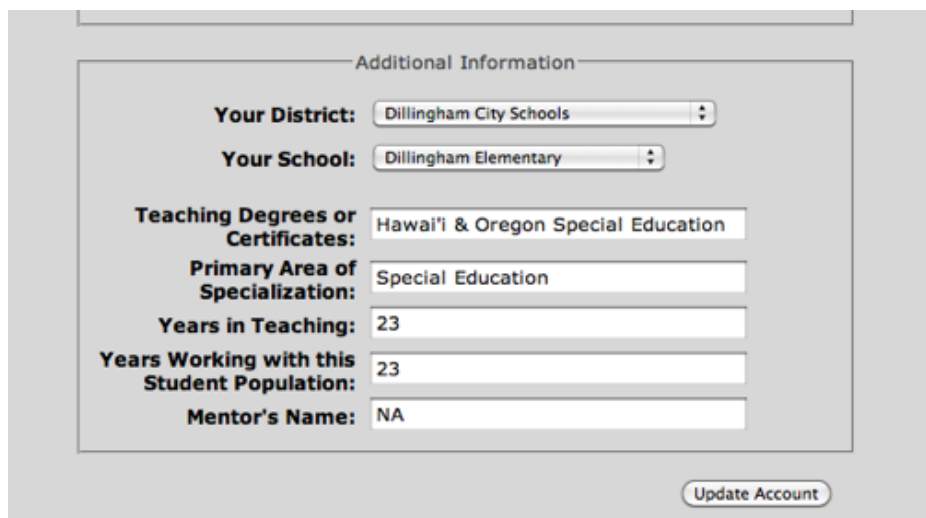
Retype Password:

*Only if you want to change your password

Personal Information

First Name:

Last Name:

3. Additional user demographic information collected.

Additional Information

Your District:

Your School:

Teaching Degrees or Certificates:

Primary Area of Specialization:

Years in Teaching:

Years Working with this Student Population:

Mentor's Name: